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In re Application of	:	
Steele et al.	:	
Application No. 09/988,811	:	DECISION ON PETITION
Filed: 11/20/2001	:	
Attorney Docket No. 17357.2.1.2	:	

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.181 (no fee), filed July 28, 2008, requesting withdrawal of the holding of abandonment in the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

This application was held abandoned for failure to reply to the nonfinal Office action mailed December 5, 2007, which set a three (3) month shortened statutory period for reply. In the absence of a timely filed reply, the Office mailed a Notice of Abandonment on June 27, 2008.

Petitioner asserts that the Office action dated December 5, 2007, was not received because it was mailed to a previous correspondence address.

A review of the written record indicates an irregularity in the mailing of the Office action of December 5, 2007. In this regard, the Office received a change of address on October 11, 2007, prior to the mailing of the Office action of December 5, 2007. Unfortunately, the Office records were not updated to reflect this new change of address. Accordingly, as the Office action was mailed to an incorrect address, the holding of abandonment is withdrawn.

The Office acknowledges receipt of the reply to the nonfinal Office action submitted with the present petition.

This application is being referred to the Technology Center Art Unit 3685.

Telephone inquiries regarding this decision may be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3211.

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